ENVELOPE SERIES

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AMERICAN BOARD of COMMISSIONERS
for FOREIGN MISSIONS 14 Beacon St. Boston

A QUARTERLY

ENVELOPE SERIES

Issued by
The Committee on Missionary Education in the Local Church of the Missions Council of Congregational Christian Churches
Editors: Ruth Isabel Seabury, *Educational Secretary*

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

DEAR READER:

In this issue we have tried to gather up actual experiences of local churches in telling the story of missions to their own people, in arousing interest in a specific need, in carrying out interest into action or in presenting the whole benevolence program to the church. We have tried to cover as wide a variety as possible so that here Young People, Women's Organizations, the Church Missionary Committee, and the Committee on the Every Member Canvass are presented.

We have included several reports about the Micronesia Anniversary and since there is still time for any church or conference gathering to observe that anniversary we wanted everyone to hear of these expressions of good will. Send for the Micronesia number of ENVELOPE SERIES if you haven't already, use any one of the program features, or just have a simple birthday cake as the Middle Atlantic people did, *but do send your greetings to King John!* (See pages 36-38.)

We wish we could show you the beautiful book all done in gold and with plastic coverings for every page which was presented to us by the church in Grandville, Michigan. We have been able to reproduce only portions of it, but we hope that will stimulate other churches to make such a delightful record of their project—indeed to try such a church-wide project!

Don't miss the new materials at the back of this issue on page 40!

Be sure and tell us when you also have done something clever, interesting, distinctive, successful, or truly educational in any sense. Your experience may be of help to others.

And now one last piece of advice—we hope the local church committee on Missionary Education (or on Our Christian World Mission) is going to meet in June; give some fine reading assignments to every member and make constructive plans

for the best possible use of the wonderful books ready for our use this year on the two themes, *Africa* and *Home Missions and Human Rights*.*

Yours for a year of better thinking and deeper consecration.

RUTH ISABEL SEABURY

Boston, Massachusetts
May 25, 1952

WE RECOMMEND—AKEVA

In connection with the fine Africa Materials presented in our last issue, a good, and free, pamphlet put out by the **American Leprosy Missions, Inc.,** *AKEVA* tells the moving and wonderful story of this Protestant work of mercy in Africa in which our own missionaries are coöperating. Send for *Akeva* to the A.L.M., Inc., 156 Fifth Ave., N. Y., 14 Beacon St., Boston, 127 N. Dearborn, Chicago. Ask about their Africa film, too.

*** ENVELOPE SERIES, Spring, 1952, gives a full review of these materials and suggestions for using them. Use this issue in your Committee. Single copies 15 cents.**

PLYMOUTH, MILWAUKEE, TEACHES

Dr. Everett MacNair, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has always been greatly interested in the possibilities of an adult educational program, both for an understanding of the Christian faith and an expression of that faith in work and service. In ENVELOPE SERIES we have frequently told of his educational ventures in New York and Ohio. Here we have attempted a presentation of the program that he and the various committees of Plymouth Congregational Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, are carrying out. Three portions of that program seem to us particularly significant for other churches: the Education Plan which precedes the Every Member Canvass, the Adult Education Series, and the Special Education carried on by missionary and service projects.

I. Educating the Membership

For its Every Member Canvass, Plymouth Church was lucky in having some remarkable professional help among its own members. The Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Mr. E. J. Robertson, was the young and vigorous Program Director of the TV station of the *Milwaukee Journal*. To him the ministers, Dr. MacNair and Mr. Bundy, gave facts and figures, human interest stories, and what Dr. MacNair calls "spiritual copy." Another Deacon, Mr. Wilbur Howe, an architect and artist, drew delightful drawings to illustrate the material. Some of these are included on these pages. The Canvass Committee used these materials in many ways, but chiefly in posters, letters to the membership, and "talks" which Mr. Robertson gave for the launching of the Canvass and the training of the canvassers.

Three church bulletins were prepared by the ministers as spiritual grist and inspiration for the Canvass under the three headings "Your Church Speaks": "Of Its Faith," "Of Its Work," "Of Its Needs." These three bulletins and a preliminary one contain-

YOUR CHURCH SPEAKS OF FAITH

"A certain man . . ."

so begins Jesus' moving story of the Good Samaritan. It is history's classic definition of a true neighbor. It pictures Christianity's distinctive stand on love and service to others. (Luke 10: 25-37.)

In this simple story that grew out of a question on eternal life and ended in payment for room and board, Christians meet face to face three different approaches to life. The same three alternatives revealed in the Master's story are offered in today's world. And every man must choose "the way his soul shall go."

Remember the scene?

The "certain man" was beaten and robbed, and left to die beside a lonely road. A priest and a Levite saw his suffering and passed by on the other side. A Samaritan, member of a race with whom the Jews had no dealings, saw his suffering, and stopped. Moved with compassion, he cared for the man's wounds, took him to an inn, and paid in advance for necessary care.

The three ways?

I. What's yours is mine—if I can get it.

This, in simplest form, is the robber approach. It takes.
It has selfishness as its motive, and any means as its method.
It robs men of their right to live, of their right to respect.
It corrupts society. It causes hate and breeds wars.

II. What's mine is my own—if I can keep it.

This is the way of the priest and the Levite. They saw a need, but were unmoved. They wanted no involvement in another's suffering. Too busy to feel, they passed by, secure in what they had, refusing to risk it on a stranger in need. This is the shallow security that cuts people off from life and makes them lonely—and, of course, insecure.

III. What's mine is yours—if you will share it.

The way of the Samaritan is so different that it gives new meaning to the word "good." It is a faith in people, and in the God who made them. It says, "A person is a child of God and is priceless." It says, "God is good to me, and out of my joy I must share, because I care."

ing the entire proposed budget appeared on the Sundays preceding and including the Canvass. Beautifully printed on colored stock, each contained the "Order of Worship" for that Sunday, thus insuring their being carefully looked at by all those at church. We asked Dr. MacNair to write a few words about the experience of preparing for the Canvass because we were ourselves so impressed by the splendid educational viewpoint and the high inspirational content. Dr. MacNair writes:

> "Our canvass dates were set in June for the first Sunday in November. We picked an early date so as to make room for Plymouth Week at a time when there would be very little monthly activity; that is, at the tag-end of October.
> In the sanctuary of the church, following the Sunday Morning Service on October 14, an all-church business meeting was held and the budget was presented—a budget for $56,000, of which nearly $9,000 was for benevolences. On October 21, fifteen teams and their Captains were invited to luncheon at the church. There the Committee led by Chairman Clark Robie briefed the men for the canvass and distributed the names of the families to be canvassed."

The bulletin for that Sunday carried the title "Your Church Speaks of Faith" (see opposite page) and an announcement: "Next Sunday is the first milestone of our annual Plymouth Week for recognition and support of the work of our church."

October 28, **Dedication Sunday**, Dr. MacNair preached on the subject, "The Sacrament of Adventure" and launched **"Plymouth Week."** During the four nights, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, "Recognition Suppers" were held for the members of the church. Literally the suppers were *invitation suppers* for the members were guests of their own church (see page 12). Mr. Robertson, the special chairman for these suppers, directed the program "Power House" in which the needs of the church were presented.

YOUR CHURCH SPEAKS OF ITS WORK*

Our Church School

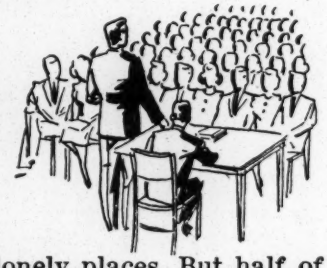
It is ten-thirty Sunday morning. Plymouth parents and children attend together. Boys and girls, 2 years old to 8th grade, enter our beautiful education wing, filled with worship, study and song. The school is growing, too, 422 enrolled last Sunday.

Our Morning Worship

Come early Sunday morning. Plymouth pews are well filled. Ours is a liberal pulpit. Behind our minister is our choir. In front are deacons, ushers, cordiality couples and flower committee to visit the sick. We give to good causes, clear community needs, take stock of spiritual things. Our church is *a power house of God's spirit.*

Adult Religious Education

Adults learn, too, at Plymouth. At Women's Guild and circles, Men's Club and Colony (for couples) and at Young Adults, there is information, inspiration and the Christian challenge.



Recreation Meets a Need

Big cities can be lonely places. But half of those who join Plymouth Church are already members of some friendly group in our extensive activities program. Many newcomers find their first friendships here, in gym, dining room, parlors and social rooms. We have six free basketball periods a week, and seven Boy and Girl Scout troops. There is Youth Center Friday nights and Allen Club and Milwaukee A Capella Choristers. You should see our gym when the square dance caller "cries the mike!"

Our Christian World Mission

By the project system, Plymouth people gave through our budget this year, $4,341 to the work of Dr. and Mrs. Albert W. Dewey, our medical missionaries in Gazientep, Turkey. This was our share of Congregational foreign mission work, including continuing war emergency relief. Of our new budget, $8,500, over 14 per cent is asked for state, national and foreign work for others. Of each dollar, forty cents is used in Wisconsin. Outside the budget, over three thousand dollars goes to special needs, mostly Congregational, including colleges and seminaries, refugee work, and rebuilding the youth conference cottages at Green Lake.

You will find us busy seven days a week—and half the night too!

* We had to cut this a lot to fill our space! Sorry.

The bulletin for the Dedication Sunday had carried the title "Your Church Speaks of Its Work" (opposite) and had called attention to the *five parts of the church's program:* the Church School, the Morning Worship, the Adult Education Program, the Recreation Program and their Christian World Mission.

On Sunday, November 4, **Consecration Sunday,** the whole church had a chance to read the inspiring message of the bulletin, "Your Church Speaks of Its Needs" (see next page), to hear the deeply moving sermon of their pastor, "For God and His Church," and to share in the Service of Consecration for the men who were to do the canvass.

The canvassers then met at dinner, after service, to gather up the last details and to go out with a sense of dedication to their work. Between 5:00 and 6:00 that afternoon, the fifteen captains and the pastors waited at the church for their report. The people had been consecrated too, that they might wait "with a sense of expectancy" in their homes and take the final steps to make effective the program of their church. One hundred eight men actually served as Captains and canvassers, not counting ten overhead commiteees who helped in the Plymouth Week plans. One hundred thirty-three people in the church made substantial increases in their pledges amounting to a total gain of nearly $4,000 and by the fourth week after the Canvass they had reported a net increase in giving of more than $8,000.

The Invitation Suppers

Chairman Robertson did his talk at the invitation suppers in the form of a Fireside Chat, informal and friendly. With the lights turned low he began quietly:

"Naturally you wonder why I am sitting up here in the dark. Sometimes it is easier to do good thinking 'when the lights are low.' Why are *you* sitting here right now? Lots of other things you could be doing. Maybe you have office work to do, maybe the dishes are still in the sink at home, maybe you cut your bridge club to come tonight, or sidestepped

YOUR CHURCH SPEAKS OF ITS NEEDS

What is a Church?

A church is not a building, but it needs a building to do its work.
A church is not its ministers, but it needs a ministry to lead its program.
A church is not its morning worship, but it needs worship to strengthen its life.
A church is not a missionary program, but it needs a fellowship of service to others to justify its existence.
A church is not a gospel, but it needs a gospel to have a reason for being.
A church is not a creed, but it needs an affirmation of faith to express its purpose.
A church is not a recreation hall, but it needs a fellowship of fun to lift the spirits of its members.
A church is not a bank, but it needs regular financial deposits to accomplish its mission.
A church is not a budget, but it needs a sensible plan for its activities.

What, Then, Is a Church?

"A Church is a society of people, seeking to know and to do the will of God, looking to Jesus for the way and the power."
—Rockwell Harmon Potter.

A Church is people.

A Church is people with a purpose, and a way, and a power.

A Church is people who are consecrated.

Consecrated?

con'-se-crate: 1. to make, or declare, sacred or holy; to set apart or devote to the service or worship of God.

To be true to its purpose, its gospel, its God, a Church needs people who are "set apart" and devoted to the service and worship of God. It needs money that is "set apart," too; but if it has consecrated people, it always has consecrated money.

During Plymouth Week half of your Church's family has met at supper to re-consecrate its life and a fair share of its wealth for the year ahead. To those who have made this pledge of consecration, your Church speaks in the Master's words: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

TODAY IS CONSECRATION SUNDAY. Over one hundred men, "set apart" for a holy task, will call in Church homes to ask the other half of our family to re-consecrate themselves to our work. Honor them with your attention. Honor your Church with your devotion. Honor your God with your stewardship of wealth.

Your Church budget is only figures, but it represents a wonderful dream, too. It is a dream of service to young and old, to children, youth and adults who need our gospel more than they need anything else in the world.

To those whose increased consecration in time, talent, and money make the dream come true, your church speaks, again in the Master's words:

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

your favorite TV program, or skipped your Night School class. Why? You answer that question not for me but for yourself. Maybe it was the offer of a free meal! I doubt that, even though it was a good one. Maybe it was Friendship. Maybe it was marital pressure,—or maybe you are just curious? Maybe you'd like to find out whether anyone has done anything about those gripes you had once. Remember those cold Sundays when there wasn't enough heat in the Sanctuary and the other Sundays when you were so hot you roasted and the steam-pipes clanked during the sermon?—Well, it's fixed. It cost you your proportionate share of a bill for $2,875 but it's fixed. But fuel oil costs a penny a gallon more than it did a year ago so 57 cents more is needed from each person who makes a pledge." (Then follows a discussion of the many bills which have come in a church's mail-box as well as in a family's.)

"In 1949 we said good-bye to 82 of our members who left us in a body to join North Shore Church, a new church. This year North Shore is still forging ahead but the current Year Book shows that Plymouth Church, *our church,* has made *a greater net gain in membership than any other Wisconsin Congregational Church.*

Then he spoke statistically of the people of Plymouth Church, of the Church School, of its crowded conditions, of the limited time allowed for religious education in any program, of the splendid curriculum and the good leadership, and of the Youth Center with its opportunity to serve the community.

And then he continued:

"We are giving more to others, too. Our benevolences are the funds which bespeak our concern for men and women like ourselves, yet less fortunate, elsewhere in this country and abroad. They haven't been increased in the same proportion as our total budget. We are planning to increase our benevolence giving by $1,000 which would be an increase of $1.43 per pledge.

"We have roughly 1,200 members. The cost of running this church of ours amounts to about $42 per member. If all of us were equally able to pay, it would work out so that in a family where there were two Plymouth members next year's pledge should be roughly $85. If four in your family are members, next year's pledge for the family should be $170. If you cannot or do not give that much someone else must make it up. There's one yard-stick. If every person—Plymouth member or Plymouth supporter—will pledge 25 cents a week more to his church next year than he is pledging at the present time we will have subscribed our bud-

(Invitation sent to all the members of the church)

The Board of Trustees of Plymouth Church
cordially invites you as their guests
to a Recognition Supper at the church
(date)
at six-thirty o'clock, to meet our ministers
and to discuss the work of our church.
Mr. E. James Robertson and committee
will present our church program.
There will be an opportunity to make a pledge
toward our 1951 budget.
On the following Sunday, November fifth,
at ten-thirty o'clock,
there will be a Dedication Service.

CHARLES G. PARKER
CLERK OF TRUSTEES

get. Twenty-five cents a week—the cost of a hamburger—the cost of an ice-cream soda—the cost of a pack of cigarettes.

"Is it possible that you can afford to increase your pledge by a bit more than the cost of a hamburger? Is it possible that during this chat tonight you have found out something about your church's enlarged program which pleases you? Is it possible that for the sake of your boys and girls you are willing to give up *more* than a pack of cigarettes a week so we can continue that fine new curriculum for our Church School? Is it possible that you never stopped to think before that it costs more than $42 a year to operate Plymouth Church just for you?

"Maybe that's your answer to my original question 'Why are you sitting here just now instead of doing something else?' I think that's why you came. I think you believe in Plymouth Church and in the work it is doing in our families, our neighborhood, our community and our world. And believing, you know that we as individuals *are* the church. *There is no church without our efforts.*

"If nobody comes to church on Sunday morning there can be no Church Worship Service, but they do come,—twice as many as ten years ago.

"If nobody is interested enough in our boys and girls to teach in the Church School there can be no Church School, but there is one—larger this year than ever!

"If nobody believes in the tremendous importance of God's work in the world and in the support of that work for love of Him, then there can be no advance, only retreat. But there shall be *greater* service given! We have called this Plymouth Week and this is a Recognition Supper. This is the moment for us all to recognize and be proud of Plymouth Church.

"In just a few minutes you will be offered a Plymouth pledge card. Please accept it as an opportunity for you to express in material fashion the convictions you now feel within you. (Instructions about filling out the pledge and handing it in to the host at the table or the host at the door.)

"And as you find your way home tonight may the warm and pleasant feeling you have deep down inside be a silent benediction."

II. Plymouth's Adult Education Features

Annual Supper Series

One of the best concentrated pieces of education on the whole church's program at Plymouth Church is the Wednesday Night Supper Series. For three years in succession they have planned and conducted what amounts to a "School of Churchmanship." Each Wednesday evening there are two main attractions—the Supper, with a Table Talk, and the Classes, of which three are run simultaneously throughout the series of four Wednesday evenings.

Plymouth has tried a thorough method of getting at what their folks want for the series. They have polled the church with a questionnaire or opinion-getter and have had a remarkable return from their people. They have found there is a tremendous interest on the part of the adults in the Bible and Christian beliefs. This year they are going to try to arouse a greater interest in "Missions" and in Christian ethics by wording the questions on the questionnaire more constructively and interestingly. But of course the questionnaires have decidedly guided the choice of courses offered and speakers selected.

This year the "table talks," 7:15-7:45, included an address by Eleanor Wilson of Micronesia, the other speakers being all from Milwaukee or Wisconsin, and dealing with Foreign Policy in the United States, with Science, and with Religions of Mankind.

The Classes run for one hour and a quarter. This year one course was on Current Christianity and led by the Associate Minister, Mr. Bundy.

The second course was taught by Prof. Ruth Morrison who is Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Milwaukee Downer College. This was her second year with the Wednesday Night Series, for Plymouth people thoroughly enjoyed their

experience with her. The course was called "These Also Believe," dealing with Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity's place among the Religions.

The third course of the series was called the Forum Course and brought in four different speakers, one each evening, coordinated under the chairmanship of a very popular High School teacher. All four dealt with problems of the Atomic Age; the first two were professors of science, the third was the Mayor of the city (the "City in an Atomic Age"), and the fourth came from the National Foreign Policy Association, speaking on "World Affairs and the Atom."

During the three years in which this series has been tried, there have been three or four of the "World Fellows" from Chicago Theological Seminary on the program presenting Missions from the angle of Christian leaders from overseas. There was one whole series on International Affairs from the angle of the Christian, one on current Theology from the layman's point of view (including Missions). These courses have all been very well received.

The Fall Forum Series

Because of the success of the above Series they tried this year, in addition, a Fall Series on four successive Wednesday evenings with two parallel classes and with no supper meeting. It was announced as "Fall Education Series, two classes in Modern Christian Faith. Registration $1.00. Social Hour and Refreshments at 9:00." Forty-one people registered for Dr. MacNair's classes on "Europe '51, Post-War or Pre-War." Seventeen took Dr. Jacob Van Tuinen's course on Christian Ethics.

The Women's Guild, in addition to two meetings a year, has invited Dr. MacNair, who visited our Home Mission project among the American Indians at Fort Berthold in December, to speak to the Six Circle Meetings about his discoveries there, and the work of Miss Alice Watson with whom their church has had special connections.

III. Special Projects and Offerings

Since Plymouth's Missionary giving or the Apportionment is handled chiefly as a percentage of the total church Budget, much of the *direct* education has to do with the special offerings and projects of organizations and departments or of the whole church. Chief among these are the extra gifts of Plymouth to their own missionary family, the Deweys.

Dr. Dewey of Turkey, Special Project

Dr. and Mrs. Albert Dewey, missionaries under our American Board in Turkey, have been specially assigned missionaries of Plymouth Church for many years. What this fellowship has meant it would be hard to describe. To Dr. Dewey, it means folks to whom he can write when he is desperate for something, and folks on whose interest he can count. He might, I am sure, consider Everett MacNair as his pastor. To the church, it means that when they say "missions" it is not just an abstraction in the budget, but a friend. Dr. Dewey's correspondence with Dr. MacNair finds its way into Church School bulletins, letters to the teachers, information to the committees. For example, the special offering for Easter in March of 1951 was for the work of Dr. Dewey. We quote from the Church School Bulletin of Mr. Bundy.

SPECIAL OFFERING — Our third special offering will be received Easter Sunday, March 25. Appropriately, it will be used in the wider Christian work, to bring hope and healing in the spirit of Jesus. The project: the work of Dr. and Mrs. Albert W. Dewey at their Hospital in Turkey. As always, this offering should be a teaching situation—a real chance to get children acquainted with Congregational Mission work.

Whenever possible in these next few weeks use the Deweys and their work to show *how Plymouth reaches out across the ocean and becomes a world-wide church*. Here are a few items worth telling:

Dr. Dewey is head doctor of the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital in Turkey. (Show where Turkey is on the map or globe.) His wife is a

nurse, and a real partner in the work. Records for 1946 show that 1,269 patients were admitted, 201 operations performed, and 6,889 visits were made to the out-patient department. That's a lot of work for a 49 bed hospital!

Parents of our children will also be learning of the Deweys because the adult offering will be for them also, this Easter. Every home should be thinking of them. And if we do our job right, parent education will be aided.

One feature of this project of great appeal to me is that this is *practical Christianity*. Here in the wards and rooms of a hospital the humanitarian job of rebuilding people is being done by Christians who care. It is preaching in a language that all can understand—it's a gospel for tiny children, and for old people too. Let's teach that all Christians are missionaries—no matter what their job. When we cannot go ourselves to bring medicine and hospital care, we can send men and women who can turn our money into new hope, new life. That's one of the things that Easter is about!

Suggestion—Many of the children are already thinking of Lent as a time when you "give up" something. Let's "give up" only if we are going to "take on." To give up sodas and save the money for an Easter splurge on ourselves is not very religious. We need to take on a new responsibility. We are suggesting that the Deweys and their hospital be *your* Lenten task. Start saving each day or each week for the special Easter gift through the Church School.

Dr. Dewey has come more and more to count on Plymouth Church for special help. As the pastor said in a recent letter to the editor, "our Easter offering for Dr. Dewey totaled $1,225.04. We had studied his accounts and find that he seems to be depending on us for new equipment—they do not budget new equipment; they buy it only as, and if, Plymouth Church comes through."

And Plymouth Church has come through, as witness this letter from Dr. Dewey:

"Picture in our scrub-up room a 16 year old long, tube-like zinc water reservoir above a similarly old and long zinc lined trough where our surgeon, his assistant and the scrub-up nurse used to prepare for operations. Now picture three immaculate white Duraclay sinks with white tile background and spray faucets through which run hot and cold water

blended to the right temperature by the perfect under sink knee control. Not only will these be a joy and source of pride to the members of our surgical staff, but they will give fine service for a life time! (The cost including purchase price, transportation from the USA, customs and installation came to $622.95.)

"Another picture! during the 22 years I have been connected with this hospital there has been a small stool at the foot of each bed, and at the nurses' desks and in the private rooms light chairs with wire backs of the type we used to see around the tables in ice cream parlors. We have also had one ancient grandfather chair on the men's and one on the women's floor. The wire chairs and stools were and are satisfactory for visitors but not for ill or convalescing patients. Now as you enter our six wards and 12 private rooms, you will see in each a comfortable arm chair painted a pleasing pastel light blue or green. In our Workers' Rest Room also there are six new chairs of this same type. What a blessing these are every day and many times a day. (Cost of the 24 chairs $116.55.)

"Some years ago from the central part of the top floor of the former Girls School Building in the compound adjoining that of the hospital a large section was partitioned off and is now a most attractive sitting room for our pupil nurses. (It was here that last night the impressive capping service was held for our four youngest girls.) The remaining area was divided into 6 cubicles so that our pupil nurses might be not over two or three in a 'room' and thus enjoy at least semi-privacy. Thanks to Plymouth Church and other friends these 'rooms' are now not only much more comfortable, but decidedly attractive. Each has a door, a new study table and a chair for each nurse and also an inexpensive brightly colored locally woven small wool rug. (Cost of the 8 study tables, 8 chairs and 9 rugs paid for by Plymouth gifts $162.23.)

"Thus each year to see some of our dreams come true is like a tonic and adds not only zest but greater effectiveness to our efforts and contributes also to the ever increasing esteem in which the hospital is held by appreciative patients, their relatives and friends."

The Church School Gives for Home Missions

We were impressed by the excellent education being given to Church School teachers for all their projects, and, of course, through them to the children. As Mr. Bundy wrote us:

"Church School gets its missions in various ways in addition to curriculum. We write special stuff for teachers and ask that

it be dealt with in classes for a couple of weeks. Four special offerings are used as educational techniques through the year." (Below are a couple of samples. The Dewey item above was one too, of course.)

First Special Offering—Thanksgiving Sunday

"This is the Sunday after Rally Day, and will need as much or even more stress if we are to make it count. Last year, the Thanksgiving offering totaled over $50. That's fine, we'd like to make it again. This is an important teaching situation, in addition to helping a particular piece of Congregational work. *The Church* has been your theme—this is a way the church expands its work in the world—through the giving of money to people who need the help of the church.

"It is suggested that all departments stress the Congregational work being done with the *Fort Berthold Reservation Indians* in North Dakota. This is a Home Missions Project with a great deal of appeal. It is close to home—it ties in with Thanksgiving and the first friendly Indians who helped the early settlers. Thanksgiving is an American custom; no people are more American than the Indians.

"One important thing, however, is this. The best job can be done in *your intimate class room contacts*. Here you may discuss the meaning of stewardship, why the church is concerned about other people, and how it works to help them. Try as you can to show children that their offering at Thanksgiving is more than money. It is power that we have and can send to do good. We may not be able to go to North Dakota (show them a map) but we can send part of ourselves.

"It is something of an experiment this year, to see if our class contact can make missions real. You who teach are the key. It will mean that you may have to cut down on your regular material for a couple of Sundays to insert this emphasis, but it is of value to relate it to our own holiday (holy day) observance.

"For some years the Indians have been a project of Congregational Christians. This year the need is greater than ever. Because of a Federal Dam project, almost all of these people will lose their homes, schools, churches and will have to be re-settled elsewhere.

"This upheaval in their way of life will put extra loads upon our church workers who help to guide them, and treat them decently. Our Board of Home Missions needs our help. But equally important is that our Church School feel that the Christian Church is at work in other parts of our country.

And here is an attractive Plymouth bulletin about the Congregational Service Committee to help their teachers develop a special Christmas project of service.

"Things to talk about—At Christmas we are celebrating the birth of Jesus, the baby who grew up to bring help and hope to the helpless and hopeless in his own time, and who so taught the love of God and the brotherhood of men that today his teaching is still called the "gospel" which means "good news." Jesus Christ is the person and the spirit which makes Churches have a reason for existing.

"The people of our Congregational Churches—boys, girls, young people and grown-ups—feel that one of the ways we can help in the spirit of Jesus is to bring help to people who are sick, hungry and cold. We have a church department called the Congregational Christian Service Committee which tries to work with people desperately in need. We, through this Committee, can make our offering turn into medicines, food and clothing (and a few toys) for families across the sea. We have teams of workers (teachers, food experts, doctors and nurses) in several countries to see that our money gets used for the most needed things, and that these things get to the people who need them most.

"In Naples, for example, our Service Committee team is busy day and night trying to do good things with and for the many families who live in *caves* in the hillside, and many other families whose "homes" are only broken down barracks. The caves are terrible, overcrowded, damp and cold. The people are poor, can get very little work; get very sick because they live in such bad conditions and have such poor food and inadequate clothes. They will understand better the spirit of Christmas when they learn that our children here have cared enough to give something extra to help them be happier and healthier."

There is much more that could be told about this Church's splendid teaching program: of the Pilgrim Fellowship, Young Adult Group, Pastor's Class and many other programs of education. Their World Fellowship Committee is planning continuously with the pastors for "next steps." As Dr. MacNair recently wrote, he is trying the experiment of a "story from my mail on Missions in each sermon this spring."

A PARTNERSHIP THAT BLESSES

Community Church, Glenview, Illinois*

Our furlough has been refreshing: to visit family and friends, to become acquainted with many churches whose representatives we are, to see a few movies, and travel along familiar streets and highways! However, these last nine months could hardly be called a rest. In fact, one of the most enjoyable weeks we have spent was one of the busiest.

As we went west to Tacoma, Washington, last fall we stopped a few hours in Glenview, Illinois, to begin getting acquainted with the Community which had just previously pledged $2,000 a year to the Lobito work. At that time we set the third week in January as the time for a more extended visit with these new friends.

We arrived in Chicago as scheduled on Saturday. We were met and taken to "our home" in Glenview. One of the three ministers was on vacation and he left his house open for us. Everything was supplied, including food in the cupboard. Sunday morning we started a program which carried us through the following Sunday evening. We spoke to 27 different groups in those eight days!

The Glenview Community Church is young. As we might expect of youth, it is growing rapidly and has lots of energy. The months between our visit in the fall and our January visit had not been wasted. Each department of the Church School, and several other groups had undertaken some kind of a project so that our visit was not simply an introduction and starter; it was a climax to three months' education and activity. One department of the Church School had collected money for some visual education equipment. Another department had gathered

*** Larry Henderson "belongs" to several churches as their missionary in Africa. He and his family have just completed a year of furlough in this country. Before leaving he sent us these three delightful and inspiring stories, from three different churches.**

paper and pencils for use in the schools. One woman's group had baby clothes and another money for scholarship aid for promising students—all for our work in Africa.

During that enjoyable week our job was not to interest Glenview in Lobito. Our job was to share our concern with friends who wanted to help, but had many questions, and were eager to learn how they could be more responsible partners in the Christian work in Lobito, Angola.

LARRY HENDERSON

CHURCH SCHOOL MISSIONARY SUNDAY

West Roxbury Congregational Church

May 18, 1952

Every child in the Church School of the West Roxbury Congregational Church knows that an important part of the work of his or her church is to reach out to all corners of the world. In the past four months *this whole church* has become missionary-conscious primarily through the leadership of the Church School.

The last Sunday of each month was Missionary Day. The worship service had a missionary theme. The children and teachers heard that the Hendersons wanted to take an organ back to Lobito for the church there. They decided that they could give enough money in four months to buy an Estey's portable organ. The first Sunday of each month cardboard folders were distributed. They were made so that the children could slip in 16 pennies. On the last Sunday—or Missionary Day—they returned the folders with the pennies.

Also each class had some handwork project which was related to the general theme of missions. One class had a China exhibit made up attractively to show some Christian literature in Chinese as well as some art objects from China. The little tots colored pictures of African and Indian scenes. A Junior

High Class made a model of an unreached African village and across the stream an African Christian village.

This afternoon was the climax of this missionary education program. All the children came to church with their parents. The projects of all the classes were attractively displayed, and as the families arrived they were taken around to see all the displays. Then all gathered in the assembly hall and the Superintendent of the School presented the organ to the Hendersons. To show our gratitude I presented the Church School with a set of mounted photos to illustrate the mission work in Angola as well as some curios. Each child also received a small coin and a model hoe from Angola.

The program was closed appropriately by the singing of "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" to the accompaniment of the organ which will leave with us next week for Lobito, Angola.

LARRY HENDERSON

A PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP WHICH MEANT WHAT IT SAID

West Haven Congregational Church

On our first visit to West Haven we showed some colored slides of the Christian work in Lobito, Angola, to the Pilgrim Fellowship. They were especially interested because some of the slides showed African school boys playing soccer with balls which had been sent to us two years ago by the same P.F.

In the course of our correspondence with the West Haven Church during our first term we had mentioned our desire to have a slide projector in Lobito. As we talked with the P.F. that evening they asked us if we had the projector yet. We said "No." They replied: "We will buy it for you."

We didn't know exactly how much the projector would cost because we needed a special model which would operate with a 6-volt car battery as well as from regular 110-volt AC current.

With the order we also wanted to include some extra lamps, a longer lens and a few other extra parts. Even though we could not state a definite amount needed, the P.F. repeated, "We will buy it for you." They went to work to raise the money. We ordered confident that the P.F. meant what it said.

Our furlough was rapidly coming to a close, so when we received the bill for $100.14 we wrote to the West Haven Pilgrim Fellowship asking how much of this they could pay. They answered: "We have $70 in our treasury for your projector." Enclosed was a check for this amount. However, the letter went on to say: "We said we would buy the projector for you. We meant it. Enclosed please find also a check for $30 which we borrowed and will pay back from the proceeds of a Christ Work Day we have scheduled for the end of the month.

LARRY HENDERSON

CHRIST'S WORK DAY

Letter from Loretta Petersen of Thorsby, Alabama*

"Saturday was a busy day for Thorsby P.F.'ers! It was Christ's Work Day for young people of Congregational Christian Churches all over America, and the Thorsby group was eager to earn as much money as possible. You see, the money earned was to be turned in to the Superintendent in Atlanta as our share toward 'Our Christian World Mission.'

If we were to pretend that we visited Thorsby, Alabama, on this day, these are some of the places we would have found the young people at work. First, we'd have to stop at the local cafe. Here, two girls, clad in blue jeans, would be found scrubbing and mopping floors, and at the same time talking to people, telling them about 'Our Christian World Mission.'

Next, we'd go across the street and, up above one of the gro-

* Loretta is also State P.F. President of Alabama.

cery stores, we'd find a P.F.'er helping a young married couple get their newly acquired apartment in order.

Now, let's take a trip around to some of the homes—here are two members washing windows and hanging curtains, and say —who's that they are waving to? Oh, over there—see—there are some more members raking leaves. And look—why, that little girl is balanced on a chair cutting those high hedges! And here's her friend pushing the lawn mower!

I don't want to tire you folks, so I'll just *tell* you that two blocks over, another member is washing a car!

Other members, who have regular work, are contributing what they earn that particular day.

Yes, Thorsby was a busy place on Christ's Work Day. The following Sunday night a dedication service was held at the regular Pilgrim Fellowship Meeting, a service that impressed all! By candle light and as the organ played softly, 'O Master, let me walk with Thee,' each member walked to the offering table and put in his Work Day earnings. Our combined earnings came to thirty dollars and how proud we were! For say! Our group is small and we got thirty dollars! Just think of how much all the P.F. Groups in all America must have earned toward 'Our Christian World Mission'—a sure way, we feel, toward world peace with our foreign neighbors!"

EDITOR'S NOTE: We asked Henry Rust, our National Young People's Secretary, what the final report on Christ's Work Day was. Though it is only a partial report, he said, because not all groups observed the same day, or reported the same way, he could tell us so far that *290 groups of P. F.'ers in twenty-two State Conferences gave $7,857.81* on the one observance last fall.

Next fall, Christ's Work Day will be observed nationally October 25, 1952. For suggestions and program plans see *Program Plans for Pilgrim Fellowship Action,* the new packet for Young People's leaders. Also get the flyer "A Play Without An End—Unless."

Mrs. Bouma's class with dolls.

OUR MIGRANT PROJECT

By Mrs. Frank Bouma

Congregational Church, Grandville, Michigan

Editor's Introduction: Mrs. Bouma and the Grandville church sent us the most beautiful diary—a gold-colored loose-leaf scrap book, every page encased in plastic and the most delightful record in picture and story of what one church did for the Migrants, their Home Missionary project, in which all organizations joined. Grandville Church, whose pastor is Rev. James DeKraker, is not a large church since it has 258 members. Moreover, it is in process of building its new church home, only the first half of which is completed. Yet *at the same time* the Missionary Committee put through as enthusiastic and wholehearted a piece of education on this special project as if that were their chief concern! We were inspired and we felt it would be helpful in both ideas and inspiration to other churches. We reproduced the entries in the diary entirely and as many of the pictures as we could.

January 17: The mothers of my Third Grade Class of Church School boys and girls made 17 stocking dolls and earned $25 toward the project by a "Just Like New" sale.

January 24: The Fel Com Club (young married couples) brought together baby and children's clothing and contributed $20 in cash, dedicating it on the altar.

January 28: The Third Grade Class presented their dolls and the check in a Worship Service before the Church School. At the same occasion Mrs. C. A. Bouma, our Missionary Education chairman, introduced the migrant project to the whole Church School. The Third Graders, as part of the dedication and presentation, gave a Choral Reading (see fol-

Mrs. Bouma's class with dolls.

A CHORAL READING

(Composed by Mrs. Frank Bouma's Church School Class of 17 third-grade children)

Reader: There was a certain child who asked his Church School Teacher, "What are migrants?" The teacher replied, "The Bible says that it is more blessed to give than to receive," which makes me think how thankful we should be for the people who pick and harvest our crops and how we should show our gratitude by helping them."

Voice I: Migrants?

Voice II: Migrants.

Voice III: What are migrants?

Reader: Migrants are people who follow the crops.

Voice I: Yes, migrants *are* people who follow the crops.

Voice II: And there are 2½ million of them,

Voice III: Of which one million are children.

Chorus: Migrants are people,
2½ million people including 1 million children, who follow the crops.

Voice I: In 26 states, 24 denominations are helping the migrants.

Voice II: Michigan has 30,000 migrants.

Voice III: The chief crops are sugar beets,

Voice I: fruit,

Voice II: pickles,

Voice III: apples,

Voice I: strawberries,

Voice II: asparagus,

Voice III: cherries,

Voice I: peaches,

Voice II: onions,

Voice III: and blueberries.

Reader: What does it *mean* to be a migrant?

Voice I: *What* does it mean to be a migrant?

Voice II: It means living in tents, barracks, haylofts, chicken houses and box cars.

Voice III: It means you have no steady income.

Voice I: It means not being able to go to school more than 6 weeks even if you are lucky.

Voice II: It means having no playgrounds.

Chorus: Yes, migrants are people,
people who follow the crops,
2½ million people of whom 1 million are children,
2½ million people who live in converted chicken houses, shacks, box cars,
people who have no steady income and whose children are lucky if they go to school for 6 weeks.

Reader: Migrants? Migrants are people, people who follow the crops. *Who* can help migrants?

Voice I: *You* can help migrants.

Voice II: Who, *Me?*

Voice I: Yes, *You.*

Voice II: But what can *I* do?

Voice I: You can help by being friendly with all children, no matter what race or creed.

Voice III: You can help by making migrant children in your community feel wanted as well as needed.

Chorus: Yes, we can *all* help by bringing used or new stuffed animals, bats, balls, games, dolls, or other recreational equipment to Church School each Sunday during the month of February. And we can pray, pray that all children everywhere will remember that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Scene from Fellowship Forum Play.

lowing page) and a Litany on the migrant work which was taken from the Guide Book to the Friendship Press book "Sandy and Mr. Jalopy."*

February 14: The Women's Fellowship brought used clothing, in good condition, dedicating it in a service of worship with a Choral Reading called "Christians All," which was prepared by eight women. Slides on the migrant work were shown and an offering of $10 was presented.

February 15: The Jenison Circle met and dedicated their gift of painting aprons and sunsuits which they had made and $5 which they had contributed.

* ***Sandy and Mr. Jalopy,*** **by Edith J. Agnew. 128 pages, illustrated in color. Paper, $1.00. Cloth, $1.75. Order of the Pilgrim Press.**

"ON THE GO AGAIN"

A song about migrant children—with words by Lois Lenski.*

1. Rolling, rolling, rolling along the road
   With our big load,
   Riding, riding in our Model T
   As crowded as can be.
2. Going, going, going from here to there,
   Just anywhere,
   Sleeping, sleeping, camp along the way
   Our tent is home today.
3. Picking, picking, picking where beans are thick,
   That's where we pick
   Picking, picking, pick a week and then
   We're on the go again.
4. Hoping, hoping that when the road will end
   We'll find a friend
   Hoping we may find a home some day
   And never go away.

Chorus

Rolling, rolling, we go rolling along
Singing, singing, singing a song
As we go rolling along.

A LITANY†

Reader: For the fruits that we buy at the market,
Response: We thank thee, God.
Reader: For the vegetables that help to make us grow,
Response: We thank thee, God.
Reader: For boys like Sandy who help to pick our food,
Response: We thank thee, God.
Reader: For all the workers who harvest our crops,
Response: We thank thee, God.
Reader: Dear God, we are glad that we can say "Thank You" to the men and women, boys and girls who pick our food for us. We want to share with them as they have shared with us. May our gifts make some boys and girls happy and tell them that we are their friends. May our money be used to help them know and love and worship you. Amen.

* Copyright by, and words by permission of Lois Lenski.

† Taken from material in the guide book of "Sandy and Mr. Jalopy" entitled *Primary Teacher's Guide on Migrants* by Mabel M. McCaw, by permission of Friendship Press.

February 18: The Third Grade Class finished their study of the book "Sandy and Mr. Jalopy" with a Valentine party. Parts of the book were acted out—such fun!

February 18 (Evening): The P.F.'ers made and dedicated ten Kraft Kits. On that evening they presented a Radio Skit on "Migrants" as a part of their program.

February 21: The Fellowship Forum made and dedicated Health Kits. Their program included a play about "Migrants" called *Travelin'*.* Their offering for Migrant work was $10.

February 22: The Ladies Aid made and dedicated sewing kits and $5 in cash.

February 25: The Sunday School dedicated a collection of toys and recreational equipment and $25 in cash. One Sunday their program included a record called "Why Can't Sammy Stay?"† And another Sunday they learned the Migrant song "On The Go Again." (See opposite page.)

February 26: An all-church dedication of all the gifts was made at the monthly Family Night supper. A representative of each organization presented the gift of his or her group. The program for a Service of Dedication offered on page 31 of *More About Migrants*‡ was used.

In addition to those described in the diary above, the following additional gifts were dedicated:

The Adult Bible Class gave new Bibles and Sallman's Head of Christ.

The Men's Club gave $10.

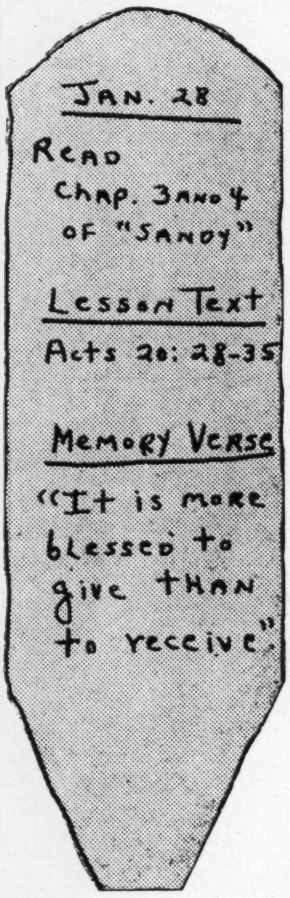
The Library sponsored a collection of pictorial books and magazines.

*** A play by Winifred Baker, 30 min. 35 cents. 5 children, 4 women (or older girls).**

† Part of the "All Aboard for Adventure Series." Available at Pilgrim Press.

‡ *More About Migrants*, a pamphlet published by Friendship Press. Price, 35 cents.

Throughout the month: There were splendid book displays on Migrant work.



There was an original poster display.

The Third Grade Class each Sunday prepared Bible Book Marks patterned after the design on the opposite page, but with a different assignment and memory verse each time.

What was the result of all this? In the words of the children:

"More fun!"
"We learned a lot."
"And we were proud of the things we were able to send for lots of work and love went into them."
"We know our money, little as it is, will accomplish a big lot."

Editor's Suggestion: Why not try such an all church project as this for our American Indian Friends or for Africa. Abundant material is available. Write to Armstrong Hunter, Missions Council, 14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass., for Suggestions about such an All Church Project.

OUR LIFE MISSION CONFERENCE

Grace Church, Framingham, Massachusetts

By Rev. John Whitney MacNeil

With the dedication on the eve of the great depression of a gothic, cathedral-like church edifice and the resulting struggle with what seemed a gigantic mortgage, the support of missions was somewhat in the background for two decades at Grace Church. The people of our church, which is one of the largest in membership in Massachusetts, prayerfully resolved two years ago to study a means of dramatically bringing to the attention of *all* of its people the exciting story of "Our Christian World Mission." A group of interested laymen, under the leadership of their pastor, naturally turned to leaders of our Boards, both in the Boston and New York offices, and the idea of a "Life Mission Conference" evolved. For *four consecutive Sunday evenings* about 400 people per night came to hear and talk with 12 of our missionaries from the field and several of our Board Secretaries. Young married couples were stimulated to pledge to missions for the first time in their lives, as a 30% increase in the number of pledges was realized.

The "Life Mission Conference" opened each Sunday evening at 5:30 with **a buffet-style supper** served to hundreds of men and women in an atmosphere of fine fellowship. Following this at 6:00 one of the leaders of the evening addressed the entire assembly and **fine music was heard,** including the Dillard University Choir from New Orleans, the organist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and the Harvard Glee Club, whose conductor, Dr. G. Wallace Woodworth, is a trustee of Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Following this assembly period, **interest groups were held at 7:00** with emphasis upon particular fields in different geographical areas of the world as well as of the United States.

Groups as large as 150 men and women often seriously petitioned the lay chairman, who presided each night, to allow more time! However, a bargain had been made with all of the people that the "Life Mission Conference" would end promptly at 8:00 P.M. every Sunday and it did!

The Conference was financed by an **advance registration fee** of $1.00 and an offering each Sunday evening. This covered all four suppers, the music, the speakers and attractive two-color program folders.

The newspaper and radio response was very gratifying indeed. *The Framingham News,* a daily of some 10,000 circulation, featured the Conference with front page stories and pictures both before and after each evening and the *Boston Herald* was most generous in summarizing the entire program. Inquiries have been received from many states concerning this missionary approach which the lay men and women of the church like to refer to as their *Mid-Twentieth-Century equivalent of the revivals of their grandparents.* We Congregationalists who have the richest Foreign and Home Mission record of accomplishment in America have a great new half century opening before us as we learn to tell of our great "Mission."

The men and women and young people of Grace Church in Framingham are already at work planning what they believe will be an even more vital "Life Mission Conference" for this coming fall. The plan is to follow up the Conference by using in the church school, the young people's department, and 21 adult groups, the general letters sent out by the missionaries and reports of activities as they happen. The motivating interest will be, "here is something *from the person we were privileged to have in our midst.*" This will be done through a new publication which will be called *The Life Mission News.*

THE WORLD COMES TO AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Nine Churches Join In Exhibition

Almost every year we get a thrilling story of a churchwide project showing initiative and ingenuity bringing a sense of worldmindedness to one of our communities. In the pages of ENVELOPE SERIES, we have written up Immanuel Church, Hartford, and its World Exhibit, the Japanese Festival of Warren Congregational Church, Cumberland Mills, Maine, and others. This time we cannot give the full story and the illustrations that we would like to but we hope that anyone interested would correspond with the folks in Amherst (especially Dr. Taylor) for information as to how it was done. Quite evidently the **Public Exhibition,** "Our Churches At Work Around the World," held in Amherst at the First Congregational Church, March 6 and 7, was a tremendous success. The Press coöperated wonderfully, the *Amherst Journal* giving a spread with excellent pictures and the *Springfield Union* a good write-up.

Organized by the Missionary Committees of the nine Congregational Churches in that vicinity, the exhibition was directed by Dr. James Dexter Taylor, retired missionary who served for fifty years in South Africa.

Colorful booths were set up representing Africa, India, China, Japan, and other foreign countries. Antique and modern art objects, carvings, paintings, woven fabrics, pottery, glass, lace, and needlework, were shown, as well as old and modern costumes, household utensils, jewelry.

Articles were loaned by members and friends of the churches, by Amherst College, and the University of Massachusetts. The services of many individuals were freely given to prepare the exhibition, the first of its kind in this area.

The program included two short religious services, showings

of film strips and sound films, recordings of religious music in many tongues, a play, "Empty Hands," and lectures by persons prominent in missionary work.

A cafeteria supper featuring East Indain, Mexican, and Chinese food was prepared and served each night by the women of the five Amherst Congregational Churches.

HISTORY COMES ALIVE

First Congregational Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

The First Congregational Church of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at a regular church meeting on April 23, 1952, adopted the following greeting sent immediately to "King John" in Kusaie:

"**GREETINGS** – To the Christian brothers and sisters on the Islands of the South Pacific, especially to those on the Islands of Ponape and Kusaie. Perchance some of these may remember Miss Annette Palmer, a member of our church (Cedar Rapids Congregational) who spent the best years of her life among you. She is buried on Ponape, her grave marked (in three languages,—English, German and Ponapean) "ANNETTE PALMER, 1884-1906, FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH." These dates indicate the long term spent on the islands, with only infrequent visits to her home church. Some of the undersigned recall one visit in which our young people became much interested.

We are happy to learn that the one-hundredth anniversary of our Missionaries reaching the Islands is being celebrated this year, and to send our most hearty congratulations and best wishes to all concerned.

We keenly realize the many vicissitudes these Islands have undergone under various foreign groups and wars, and express the hope and belief, that under the protection and guidance of the United States of America, Peace, Happiness and Prosperity may abound, and that the Christian Way of Life may grow and bear abundant fruit.

To these ends our prayers ascend and our labors continue, that the world may again find PEACE, and that all may be able to live the life taught by our LORD and MASTER, JESUS CHRIST."

Signed by the Missionary Committee—Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Rall, Mrs. Vern Lear and the Pastor, Rev. J. Richard Wagner.

PILGRIM CHURCH, WORCESTER, GOES TO MICRONESIA

In a six-weeks series, the Missionary Committee of Pilgrim Church, Worcester, brought the Micronesia mission, the work of the Morning Star and the Micronesia Anniversary before the church school and the whole church. The story, "God's Little White Ships," they secured from the Missions Council in quantity and sent one into every home. Then each week in *The Pilgrim,* which is their church paper, they presented a short write-up of the Micronesia mission. In most cases this was only a half column, 25-35 lines. Each little squib contained a separate title to make it interesting to those who looked over the paper:

One Hundred Years in Micronesia
God's Little White Ships
Micronesia Today
The Anniversary of the Micronesia Mission

But one issue gave an entire half page in large-sized type to the story of Morning Star VI, closing with the sentence, "Let us do our part to keep the Stars on their job."

Paralleling this publicity for the whole church, the church school carried on a special educational program and sent into 100 homes mite boxes to be filled during the six-weeks period as their Lenten project. At one Lenten supper they used place mats of Micronesia* and special attention was called to the anniversary. One church school class prepared a Micronesia village to place on exhibition as a part of the program. As a result of the mite box offering, $86.80 was turned over to the Benevolence treasurer and will find their way as a designated gift for the work of the Morning Stars in Micronesia.

*** Available at Missions Council, Boston, New York or Chicago, 2 for 3 cents.**

MIDDLE ATLANTIC WOMEN CELEBRATE THE MICRONESIA ANNIVERSARY

The President, Mrs. Fred Buschmeyer, in a recent letter tells us the story.

"With a large hand-drawn map of Micronesia on the wall as background, and a personal letter of greeting from Eleanor Wilson, the annual meeting of the Women's Association of Middle Atlantic Conference celebrated the Anniversary of the founding of the Mission and Churches of Micronesia.* The entertaining committee served birthday cakes for dessert at luncheon, and all 300 delegates sang "Happy Birthday to You" as the cakes on each table were lighted by the hostesses, following a description of the reason for the celebration and a short review of our Mission in Micronesia. Then we read a letter of greeting and birthday wishes to "Our Brothers in Christ" there (which had been prepared ready to send) and the greeting resolution was adopted.† It will accompany a spontaneous offering of $70 given as a designated special birthday gift to our friends in Micronesia from us, to be used in any way the mission there thinks best.

"As the candles were blown out and the cakes cut and eaten, we felt much closer to our fellow Christians so far away."

Late News Item just received: A Toledo church planned a Micronesia Series with great interest on the part of the children. A boys' class made a model of the *Morning Star* from papier mâché and chicken wire. It was displayed in church, with an oil can beside it that those interested might make contributions.

* See ENVELOPE SERIES, Winter, 1951, for complete program suggestions and write-up for simple or elaborate programs. Still available at 15 cents per copy.

† Send greetings to Rev. John Sigrah, Trust Territory, Kusaie, Eastern Caroline Islands.

FELLOWSHIP NIGHT IN PARK STREET CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

We were delighted to receive a most attractive program folder with original sketches of Mexico, a souvenir of Fellowship Night in which Latin America was brought near and vivid to the people of the church.

The meat of the meeting was an address by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Champe, missionaries to Mexico for many years and now ministering to a Connecticut church. Before the Champes spoke, there were special presentations done by the Church School and the story of our Congregational work in Mexico was told by Mrs. Helen Wallat.

The song "Mi Mexico," below, was used both for color and for a musical feature. All united in the beautiful prayer.

"Mi Mexico"*

Un Celotiende Sobre ti
Su manto azul turqui
Dos maves cantan tu loor
O patria de mi amor!

Mi Mexico, Mi Mexico,
Bendigate el Senor,
Su gracia de hasta rebosar
Del uno al otro mar.

PRAYER†

By Prof. G. Baez-Camargo

O Jesus, Master Savior and Lord of all peoples and nations, be merciful, we beseech thee, to the nation and people of Mexico. Time ago, it was conquered by the sword, under the shadow of a cross. May it now be conquered by the power of thy Cross. May thy Word become known, and loved, and obeyed in this land where religious legends and superstitions still prevail. May thy Cross cease to be a magic symbol and become a transforming reality, in this land of crosses on altars and domes. Help us, who are also called after the names of different church affiliations, to put thy Name and our loyalty to thee first and above all, and to achieve such a unity in a common faith, and a common love, and a common purpose, that the people of this land may truly believe in thee. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

* Mexican hymn "Mi Mexico," to tune of "O Beautiful For Spacious Skies."

† Prayer from D. J. Fleming's *The World at One in Prayer*, published by, and used by permission of Harper and Brothers.

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